

REMARKS

Claims 12-24 having been withdrawn from consideration, Claims 1 through 11 are now presented for examination. Claim 3 has been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. Claims 1, 3 and 6 are the only independent claims under consideration.

The drawings have been objected to in that Fig. 7 should be designated by a "PRIOR ART" legend. A corrected Fig. 7 with an added "PRIOR ART" designation is enclosed. Approval of the corrected drawing is respectfully requested. The specification has been objected to in that reference numbers at pages 26-28 have an A or a B prefix and do not correspond to the drawings. In response, the specification has been amended to remove the objected-to prefixes.

The title objected to as not descriptive has been changed to "IMAGE DISPLAY APPARATUS WITH FIRST AND SECOND SUBSTRATES IN A HERMETIC CONTAINER SEALED BY A CONDUCTIVE BONDING MEMBER THEREBETWEEN" which is believed to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are drawn. The Abstract of the Disclosure has been replaced by a one paragraph description.

Claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by JP 2000-260359 (Kawase). With regard to the claims as currently amended, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Pending independent Claim 1 is directed to image display apparatus in which a hermetic container has as construction members, first and second substrates opposite each other. An image display unit is disposed within the hermetic container. A conductive bonding member that seals the first substrate and the second substrate is disposed between the first and second substrates. the electric potential of the conductive bonding member is specified.

Independent Claim 3 as currently amended is directed to image display apparatus in which a hermetic container has as constructive members first and second substrates opposite each other and an external frame disposed between the first and second substrates. An image display unit is disposed within the hermetic container. A conductive bonding member that seals at least first and second substrates and the external frame is disposed between the at least first and second substrates and the external frame. The electric potential of the conductive bonding member is specified.

Pending independent Claim 6 as currently amended is directed to image display apparatus that has first and second substrates opposite each other and an external frame positioned between the first and second substrates. A first conductive member is positioned between the external frame and the first substrate. A second conductive member is positioned on a surface other than a surface opposite to the first substrate of the external frame and is connected to the first conductive member. The electric potential of the first conductive member is specified with the second conductive member serving as an electric path.

In Applicant's view, Kawase discloses an image forming substrate in which lead wiring connected to an image forming member is provided at a corner of the substrate. An electron source substrate is provided with plural electron emitting devices and drive wiring to drive the plural electron emitting devices. A penetrating hole is provided in a position other than those of the drive wiring. The image forming apparatus has an image forming substrate, an electron source substrate and an outer frame positioned between the substrates.

It is a feature of Claims 1, 3 and 6 that a conductive bonding member that seals first and second opposing substrates is disposed between the first and second substrates or is disposed between at least first and second substrates and an external frame disposed between the at least

first and second substrates and the external frame. Kawase at paragraph 0041 discloses that Ag paste is printed in a predetermined shape and sintered to form Y-direction wirings 23. The wirings are extended to the exterior of the electron source area to constitute the electron source driving wirings 3b shown in FIG. 1. The wiring has a width of 100 μm and thickness 10 μm (cf. FIG. 3B). During the formation of the above-mentioned Y-direction wirings 23, there is simultaneously formed a guard wiring 105 shown in FIG.4. As disclosed a paragraph 0042 , an insulating layer 24 is formed by printing a paste material composed of principally PdO and glass binder. This layer was formed with a thickness of about 20 μm in order to insulate the Y-direction wirings 23 from X-direction wirings to be explained later. In a position corresponding to the device electrode 22, a notch 24c is formed for enabling connection between the X-direction wiring and the device electrode 22 (cf. FIG.3C). Accordingly, the Ag paste described in Kawase, paragraph [0041] is used to form at least the wirings 23 and 3b. Therefore, this paste forms a conductive member. Since the paste mixed with a glass binder, as described in the paragraph [0042], it is used to form the insulating layer 24, Therefore, the above Ag paste is different from the paste mixed with a glass binder.

Further, as disclosed in paragraph 0021 of Kawase, there is shown in FIGS. 1, 2, 3A to 3E and 4 a rear plate 1 serving also as a substrate for constituting an electron source; and an electron source area 2 in which electron-emitting devices such as field emission devices or surface conduction electron-emitting devices are provided in plural units and are connected to wirings for driving such devices according to the desired purpose. Such wirings for driving the electron sources are taken out by lead wiring portions 3a, 3b to the exterior of the image forming apparatus and are connected to a driving circuit (not shown) for the electron sources. As a result, It is believed that the frit glass 201 described in the paragraph [0021] is an insulating member for

burying the wirings 3a and 3b since, as shown in Fig. 4 of Kawase, the wirings 3a and 3b comprise a plurality of the wirings electrically independent with each other. Therefore, if a conductive member is used as a member for burying the wirings, a short-circuit is caused between the wirings. Accordingly, it is apparent from Kawase that the frit glass 201 which is an insulating member is the above Ag paste which is used to form a conductive member. In at least the foregoing respects, it is not seen that Kawase in any manner teaches or suggests the conductive bonding member sealing features of Claims 1 and 3. It is therefore believed that pending Claims 1 and 6 and Claim 3 as currently amended are completely distinguished from Kawase and are allowable.

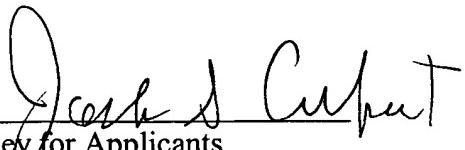
A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable and reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' attorney, Scott D. Malpede, may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010 All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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